

SENATE BILL

No. 370

Introduced by Senator Soto

February 19, 2003

An act to add Section 14133.45 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 370, as amended, Soto. Medi-Cal: dialysis: end stage renal disease.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services under the direction of the Director of Health Services, pursuant to which medical benefits are provided to public assistance recipients and certain other low-income persons.

Existing law includes dialysis treatments as a benefit within the scope of benefits provided under the Medi-Cal program.

Existing law authorizes the Director of Health Services, or a carrier acting under regulations adopted by the director, to require that any individual provider shall receive prior authorization before providing certain benefits under the Medi-Cal program.

This bill would provide that utilization controls adopted by the department shall not include prior authorization for renal dialysis treatment provided to eligible recipients for the treatment of end stage renal disease.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 14133.45 is added to the Welfare and
2 Institutions Code, to read:

3 14133.45. (a) Utilization controls adopted by the department
4 shall not include prior authorization for renal dialysis treatment
5 provided to eligible recipients for the treatment of end stage renal
6 disease.

7 (b) For purposes of this section, “end stage renal disease” is the
8 same as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 1794.02 of the Health
9 and Safety Code.

10 (c) *Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 3.5*
11 *(commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of the*
12 *Government Code, the department may implement this section by*
13 *provider manual or similar notice without further regulatory*
14 *action.*

